

NEWS

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County provides easier access to searching for grant opportunities

As of July 1, 2009, San Bernardino County faith-based and community organizations will be able to utilize GOSTream™, a daily updated stream of grant funding opportunities accessible directly from the San Bernardino County Grants Office website at <http://www.sbcounty.gov/grantsoffice/Gostream>.

GOSTream™ offers information on the most current federal, state, corporate, and foundation grant opportunities. This service will be available free of charge, allowing users to find and secure funding on a more competitive basis.

A study commissioned by the James Irvine Foundation released in March 2009 reported that San Bernardino County, on average, received \$3 per capita per year in state, federal, and foundation funding, compared to a statewide average of \$119 per capita.

"GOSTream™ will help faith-based and community organizations to better compete for the scarce resources that are available in these tough and uncertain economic times," said Board of Supervisors Chairman and Fourth District Supervisor, Gary Ovitt.

The San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors is aware of the lack of funding coming into our area and the high need for services. Since 2006, the Board of Supervisors has funded a Grants Research Database in which faith-based and community organizations are able to find grant funding opportunities. To improve the accessibility of this information, and in an effort to increase sustainability during this tough economic times; the Board of Supervisors is contracting with a new provider, Grants Office, LLC., which will allow organizations to do this research conveniently from any computer with internet access.

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"In this economy, as the grant market becomes increasingly competitive and traditional resources dwindle, simplifying the grant searching process allows nonprofit organizations to become more self-sufficient," said San Bernardino County Vice-Chair and Fifth District Supervisor, Josie Gonzales. "GOStream™ is a valuable tool that will make grant research more accessible for our county organizations, thereby increasing the number of opportunities of successfully attaining grant funds. As a result, organizations become self-sustainable and more effective in their provision of much needed services for our residents."

In order to have access to GOStream™, San Bernardino County faith-based or community organizations must join the County's Nonprofit distribution list online at <http://www.sbcounty.gov/grantsoffice>. Staff from nonprofit organizations that are currently receiving email notifications from the County Grants Office can log-in into GOStream™ to create their password starting July 1, 2009.

More information about the new grants search function can be found on the San Bernardino County Grants Office website. For questions please contact the Grants Office by email at GrantsOffice@cao.sbcounty.gov or at (909) 387-0281.